

**ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION**

A manually operable afterloader is provided for use during radiation therapy treatment of a patient. The afterloader includes at least one source wire drum, for the receipt of a non-radioactive portion of a source wire, and a shield capsule having a passageway therethrough for receipt of a radioactive portion of a source wire. A cranking mechanism is provided to rotate the source wire drum and drive the radioactive source wire out of the shield capsule.